

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated September 2, 2004 claims 20-23, 30 and 33-35, in the above-identified U.S. patent application were rejected. Reconsideration of the rejections is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Claims 20-23, 30 and 33-35 remain in this application, claims 1-19 have been canceled and claims 24-29, 31 and 32 have been withdrawn.

Claims 20-23 and 33-35 were rejected under 35 USC §101. Applicants respectfully point out that claim 20 was amended in the July 15, 2004 response to recite an "isolated antibody or antibody fragment" In view of this amendment, applicants contend that claims 20-23 should not have been included in this rejection. Claims 33-35 have now been amended to recite an "isolated antibody or antibody fragment". In view of these amendments applicants request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 20-23, 30 and 34-35 were rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, as indefinite due to the language "a nucleotide sequence which is degenerate to the nucleotide sequence of (a) as a result of the genetic code". These claims have been amended as suggested in the office action. In view of these amendments applicants request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully submit that all of claims 20-23, 30 and 33-35 are now in condition for allowance. If it is believed that the application is not in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned attorney

be contacted at the telephone number below to discuss claim amendments which would make the claims allowable.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fee for such an extension together with any additional fees that may be due with respect to this paper, may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account No. 02-2135.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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